DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 138 189 HE 008 854

TITLE	Financial Support of Higher Education in Washington. A National Comparison. Report No. 77-19.
INSTITUTION	Washington State Council for Postsecondary Education, Olympia.
PUB DATE	Apr 77
NOTE	22p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Washington State Council for Postsecondary Education, 908 E. Fifth, Olympia, Washington 98504
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.83 HC-$1.67 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Comparative Statistics; *Educational Economics; *Educational Finance; Enrollment; Enrollment Trends; *Expenditure Per Student; Financial Support; *Higher Education; Public Support; State Aid; *Tax Support
IDENTIFIERS	*Washington

ABSTRACT

This report is the fifth in a series of informational reports concerning the State of Washington's relative ranking in the nation in terms of various measures of support and factors that affect support levels. The report provides six national measures and contains "mini-comparisons" with the states of Oregon and California, which have similar patterns, and Pennsylvania, which is dissimilar. Washington ranks 29th in combined state and local appropriations per equivalent full-time student and 6th in per capita state and local appropriations for higher education. The major reason for the difference in these rankings is the percentage of students enrolled in public higher education. At the same time, it ranks 40th in the percentage of private enrollment to total student population. Washington also ranks above the national average in tax appropriations for higher education as a percentage of tax revenue collected, and in appropriations per $1,000 of personal income. These patterns of heavy demand and commitment to public higher education are similar to that of most Western states. (Author)

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Report No. 77-19

FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN WASHINGTON

A NATIONAL COMPARISON

April 1977

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908 E. Fifth
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FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN WASHINGTON

A NATIONAL COMPARISON

Council for Postsecondary Education

Project Officers:

Denis Curry
Jackie Johnson

April 1977

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INTRODUCTION

This report of the 1976-77 Fiancial Support of Higher Education is the fifth of a series of reports prepared by the Council for Postsecondary Education. The report is designed to provide information concerning the State of Washington's relative ranking in the nation in terms of various measures of support and factors which affect support levels. The following criteria are used to describe Washington's relative status:

(1) State and local tax support for higher education -- the amount of tax funds each state is making available to higher education.

(2) Higher education enrollments -- the demand for services in each state and the extent of services provided by non-public higher education.

(3) The factors affecting the states include their population.

The majority of published comparisons dealing with financial support of higher education concentrate on state appropriations and include few if any descriptive measures. The Council's reports on this subject represent an attempt to bring a number of relevant factors to bear on this issue to aid decision makers in understanding overall patterns of state financial support and some of the major reasons for those patterns.

The 1975-76 report incorporated the findings of Mr. Kent Halstead, Research Economist for the National Institute of Education (and the

author of State-wide Planning in Higher Education) who was conducting a similar study. Two of the descriptive measures of that report were not available for inclusion in this current comparison.

Higher education enrollment demand, based on the ratio of public and private high school completions per 1000 population is not included. The most recently published statistics on nonpublic high school completions is 1973-74.

The relationship of potential tax revenue (tax capacity) to actual total revenue collected was based on a tax capacity index developed by Robert Reichauer of the Brookings Institute in 1974. In conversation with Mr. Halstead concerning efforts to update this index, Council staff learned that research is planned to develop a current index for use in the 1977-78 comparisons.

In reviewing this report in comparison with last year's report, it should be particularly noted that Council staff did not adjust the Washington appropriations by fiscal year to reflect the anticipated increase in the second year of the biennium. This was done in order to retain the consistency with information reported by Mr. Halstead. In his report (and in our 1975-76 report), one-half of the biennial appropriations were used for both Washington and North Dakota. Although other states report biennial appropriations, they each include the fiscal breakdown which negates the need to allocate each year in an arbitrary manner. Prior to last year, we had corrected this by using the actual fiscal appropriations for Washington. Therefore, last year's rankings for both North Dakota and Washington were somewhat overstated. Washington amounts and rankings in 1975-76 are corrected, where necessary, in the comparisons with selected states.

TABLE 1

Combined State and Local Appropriations for Higher Education
Per Equivalent Full-Time Student

In reviewing this table, it should be kept in mind that the figures do not represent a unit instructional cost. They are, rather, the total state and local appropriations for higher education divided by a uniformly derived student measure, "equivalent full-time students". The appropriations include funds for research, hospitals, student aid, etc., which are not necessarily related to enrollment.

The table does suggest, however, the financial commitment of state and local governments to the support of higher education after considering the demand for the services and the funds available for support.

Washington ranks 29th as compared to 28th in 1975-76. Washington's relationship to three other states (California and Oregon with similar patterns and Pennsylvania, which has a dissimilar pattern) and the national average are as follows:

State and Local Appropriations Per Student

Rank			Amount	
1975-76	1976-77	State	1975-76	1976-77
3	4	Pennsylvania	$2,990	$3,106
-	-	National Average	$2,214	$2,431
25	20	California	$2,078	$2,396
32	24	Oregon	$1,971	$2,362
28*	29	Washington	$2,046*	$2,242

*Corrected 1975-76.

TABLE 1

1976-77
COMBINED STATE AND LOCAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
PER EQUIVALENT FULL-TIME STUDENT

Rank	State	Amount
1	Alaska	$8133
2	New York	$3481
3	Iowa	$3179
4	Pennsylvania	$3106
5	Rhode Island	$2902
6	Minnesota	$2892
7	Idaho	$2876
8	Hawaii	$2809
9	North Carolina	$2762
10	South Carolina	$2737
11	Wyoming	$2713
12	Nebraska	$2679
13	Indiana	$2518
14	Illinois	$2503
15	Kansas	$2497
16	Georgia	$2491
17	Alabama	$2467
18	Wisconsin	$2463
19	Arkansas	$2461
	National Average	$2431
20	California	$2396
21	Kentucky	$2394
21	New Jersey	$2394
23	Texas	$2363
24	Oregon	$2362
25	Utah	$2348
25	Maryland	$2348
27	Connecticut	$2269
28	West Virginia	$2247
29	Washington	$2242
30	New Mexico	$2239
31	Nevada	$2223
32	Florida	$2210
33	Missouri	$2191
34	Mississippi	$2172
35	Delaware	$2171
36	Virginia	$2145
37	Michigan	$2081
38	South Dakota	$2059
39	Montana	$2034
40	Massachusetts	$2001
41	Arizona	$1994
42	North Dakota	$1992
43	Ohio	$1985
44	Colorado	$1981
45	Louisiana	$1978
46	Tennessee	$1916
47	Maine	$1866
48	Oklahoma	$1577
49	Vermont	$1428
50	New Hampshire	$1227

TABLE 2

Combined State and Local Appropriations for Higher Education
Per Capita

This measure represents the appropriations for higher education on the basis of the population of the various states. This measure is somewhat simplistic in that it does not take into account any of the other factors which affect support. It has been used on a number of occasions and is included in this report since it reflects the size of the various states.

Washington ranks high on this measure, as it has for a number of years. The contrast between Washington's relatively high ranking on a per capita basis and lower ranking on a per student basis is explained in the following tables. In the comparison below, the change in rank order of the states between Tables 1 and 2 in the "mini-comparison" should be noted.

State and Local Appropriations Per Capita

Rank			Amount	
1975-76	1976-77	State	1975-76	1976-77
4	3	California	$98.15	$109.81
9*	6	Washington	$87.06*	$ 92.36
10	7	Oregon	$82.04	$ 88.70
-	-	National Average	$66.27	$ 70.89
32	35	Pennsylvania	$55.61	$ 56.20

*Corrected 1975-76.

TABLE 2

1976-77
COMBINED STATE AND LOCAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
ON A PER CAPITA BASIS

Rank	State	Amount
1	Alaska	$169.71
2	Hawaii	$110.35
3	California	$109.81
4	Arizona	$ 98.96
5	Wyoming	$ 97.75
6	Washington	$ 92.36
7	Oregon	$ 88.70
8	Kansas	$ 88.22
9	Idaho	$ 86.37
10	Wisconsin	$ 85.36
11	Nebraska	$ 85.32
12	Utah	$ 83.82
13	Colorado	$ 81.96
14	Minnesota	$ 81.60
15	New York	$ 81.08
16	Iowa	$ 80.63
17	North Dakota	$ 78.28
18	North Carolina	$ 77.30
19	Delaware	$ 77.20
20	Texas	$ 76.05
21	New Mexico	$ 75.30
22	South Carolina	$ 75.17
23	Alabama	$ 73.37
	National Average	$ 71.04
24	Rhode Island	$ 69.87
25	Nevada	$ 69.44
26	Maryland	$ 69.00
27	Mississippi	$ 68.97
28	Illinois	$ 68.16
29	Michigan	$ 68.02
30	Montana	$ 64.07
31	West Virginia	$ 62.86
32	Virginia	$ 62.81
33	Indiana	$ 60.79
34	Kentucky	$ 58.49
35	Pennsylvania	$ 57.59
36	Oklahoma	$ 56.20
37	Louisiana	$ 55.97
38	South Dakota	$ 55.95
39	Arkansas	$ 54.50
40	Missouri	$ 54.02
41	Georgia	$ 53.43
42	Florida	$ 51.64
43	New Jersey	$ 49.60
44	Ohio	$ 48.70
45	Tennessee	$ 47.67
46	Connecticut	$ 46.80
47	Massachusetts	$ 41.32
48	Vermont	$ 41.66
49	Maine	$ 39.50
50	New Hampshire	$ 27.81

TABLE 3

Percentage of Student Enrollment in Public Institutions
To Total Population

Table 3 reflects the relative enrollment demand at public institutions in the fifty states. It indicates the extent to which public higher education services are extended to the population and is an overall measure of accessibility.

This measure provides one of the main reasons for the differences in Washington's ranking in Tables 1 and 2.

Percentage of Public Enrollment to Total Population

Rank			Percent	
1975-76	1976-77	State	1975-76	1976-77
2	2	California	4.72%	4.58%
4	4	Washington	4.26%	4.12%
5	7	Oregon	4.16%	3.75%
-	-	National Average	2.99%	2.92%
50	50	Pennsylvania	1.86%	1.85%

TABLE 3

1976-77
PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT ENROLLMENT IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS
TO TOTAL POPULATION

Rank	State	Percent
1	Arizona	4.96%
2	California	4.58%
3	Colorado	4.14%
4	Washington	4.12%
5	Hawaii	3.93%
5	North Dakota	3.93%
7	Oregon	3.75%
8	Wyoming	3.60%
9	Utah	3.57%
10	Delaware	3.56%
10	Oklahoma	3.56%
12	Kansas	3.53%
13	Wisconsin	3.47%
14	New Mexico	3.36%
15	Michigan	3.27%
16	Texas	3.22%
17	Mississippi	3.18%
17	Nebraska	3.18%
19	Montana	3.15%
20	Nevada	3.12%
21	Idaho	3.00%
22	Alabama	2.97%
23	Maryland	2.94%
24	Virginia	2.93%
25	Vermont	2.92%
	National Average	2.92%
26	Louisiana	2.83%
27	Minnesota	2.82%
28	North Carolina	2.80%
28	West Virginia	2.80%
30	South Carolina	2.75%
31	Illinois	2.72%
31	South Dakota	2.72%
33	Iowa	2.54%
34	Tennessee	2.49%
35	Missouri	2.47%
36	Ohio	2.45%
37	Kentucky	2.44%
38	Indiana	2.41%
38	Rhode Island	2.41%
40	Florida	2.34%
41	New York	2.33%
42	New Hampshire	2.27%
43	Arkansas	2.21%
44	Georgia	2.14%
45	Maine	2.12%
46	Alaska	2.09%
47	Massachusetts	2.07%
47	New Jersey	2.07%
49	Connecticut	2.06%
50	Pennsylvania	1.85%

TABLE 4

Percentage of Private Institution Enrollment
to Total Enrollment

Another factor which affects the extent to which a state must respond to educational needs through public institutions and then support those institutions financially is the amount of services made available by private institutions. Private institutions make up a substantial share of available capacity in the Eastern United States where private schools preceded public institutions. In the West, with the exception of Utah, the development of both sectors took place at approximately the same time and there has been a greater commitment to public higher education in most of the Western states.

Washington ranks 40th in this measure with a proportional private college enrollment of about one-half the national average.

Percentage of Enrollment in Private Institutions

Rank			Percent	
1975-76	1976-77	State	1975-76	1976-77
5	6	Pennsylvania	40.4%	40.9%
-	-	National Average	23.2%	23.2%
32	36	Oregon	14.7%	14.0%
40	39	California	11.7%	11.9%
39	40	Washington	12.4%	11.5%

TABLE 4

1976-77
PERCENTAGE OF PRIVATE INSTITUTION ENROLLMENT
TO TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Rank	State	Percent
1	Massachusetts	58.37%
2	Rhode Island	52.11%
3	New Hampshire	44.31%
4	Vermont	44.25%
5	New York	42.02%
6	Pennsylvania	40.86%
7	Connecticut	39.27%
8	Utah	37.63%
9	Iowa	31.54%
10	Missouri	31.25%
11	Maine	29.55%
12	South Dakota	29.49%
13	Tennessee	27.07%
14	Indiana	26.65%
15	Illinois	26.59%
16	New Jersey	25.53%
17	Minnesota	24.46%
18	North Carolina	24.43%
19	Ohio	24.32%
	National Average	23.23%
20	South Carolina	23.20%
21	Idaho	22.67%
22	Georgia	21.27%
23	Florida	20.39%
24	Nebraska	19.66%
25	Kentucky	18.42%
26	Arkansas	15.93%
27	Virginia	15.89%
28	West Virginia	15.09%
29	Texas	14.75%
30	Maryland	14.74%
31	Michigan	14.32%
32	Oklahoma	14.13%
33	Wisconsin	14.06%
34	Alabama	14.00%
35	Oregon	13.87%
36	Louisiana	13.76%
37	Delaware	13.09%
38	Kansas	12.89%
39	California	11.93%
40	Washington	11.53%
41	Mississippi	10.63%
42	Colorado	9.56%
43	Montana	9.27%
44	North Dakota	6.87%
45	New Mexico	6.70%
46	Hawaii	5.52%
47	Arizona	3.86%
48	Alaska	2.82%
49	Nevada	.76%
50	Wyoming	0

TABLE 5

Combined State and Local Appropriations for Higher Education
As a Percentage of Total Revenue

The proportion of taxes apportioned to higher education is a direct measure of commitment. This measure suggests the relative importance of higher education among other competing needs after taking into account the demands for the services. This proportion should not be confused with percentages published by the Council dealing with state appropriations as a percentage of the State General Fund (State Sources) since all state and local taxes are used as the base for this table.

Washington has an above average rank in this measure which reflects the heavy state involvement in higher education.

Appropriations as a Percentage of Tax Revenue

Rank			Percent	
1975-76	1976-77	State	1975-76	1976-77
13	13	Oregon	14.4%	14.2%
15*	15	Washington	14.0%*	13.9%
18	19	California	12.9%	12.8%
-	-	National Average	10.7%	10.8%
40	42	Pennsylvania	9.0%	9.1%

*Corrected 1975-76.

TABLE 5

1976-77
COMBINED STATE AND LOCAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
AS A PERCENTAGE OF TAX REVENUE COLLECTED FISCAL 1975

Rank	State	Percent
1	Alaska	21.87%
2	Alabama	17.94%
3	South Carolina	17.05%
4	Utah	16.87%
5	Idaho	16.58%
6	North Carolina	15.98%
7	Mississippi	15.52%
8	Arizona	15.35%
9	Texas	15.06%
10	Kansas	15.03%
11	Nebraska	14.85%
12	Wyoming	14.63%
13	Oregon	14.22%
14	New Mexico	13.99%
15	Washington	13.93%
16	Arkansas	13.40%
17	Hawaii	13.27%
18	Colorado	13.25%
19	North Dakota	12.92%
20	California	12.84%
21	Iowa	12.65%
22	West Virginia	11.92%
23	Oklahoma	11.90%
24	Kentucky	11.88%
25	Wisconsin	11.87%
26	Virginia	11.30%
27	Minnesota	10.93%
28	Rhode Island	10.84%
	National Average	10.76%
29	Delaware	10.67%
30	Tennessee	10.64%
31	Georgia	10.61%
32	Montana	10.54%
33	Indiana	10.46%
34	Missouri	10.36%
35	South Dakota	10.35%
36	Louisiana	10.01%
37	Florida	9.98%
38	Michigan	9.92%
39	Maryland	9.59%
40	Illinois	9.40%
41	Nevada	9.29%
42	Pennsylvania	9.08%
43	Ohio	9.07%
44	New York	7.89%
45	Maine	6.98%
46	New Jersey	6.86%
47	Connecticut	6.76%
48	Vermont	6.02%
49	New Hampshire	5.32%
50	Massachusetts	5.06%

TABLE 6

Combined State and Local Appropriations to Higher Education
Per $1000 of Personal Income

Although there is not a direct correlation between personal income and the tax revenue of a state, this measure appears to reflect the relationship of tax availability and the proportion of taxes devoted to higher education. As in the previous table, the rankings reflect the financial commitment of those states with high public enrollment pressures and higher than average per capita appropriations.

Washington ranks 15th in this measure, in close proximity to Oregon and most of the Western states.

Appropriations Per $1000 of Personal Income

Rank			Amount	
1975-76	1976-77	State	1975-76	1976-77
11	6	California	$16.27	$16.66
14	14	Oregon	$15.53	$15.61
15*	15	Washington	$15.24*	$14.78
-	-	National Average	$12.16	$11.40
38	42	Pennsylvania	$10.21	$ 9.69

TABLE 6

1976-77
COMBINED STATE AND LOCAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
PER $1000 OF PERSONAL INCOME

Rank	State	Amount
1	Arizona	$18.48
2	Alaska	$17.96
3	Utah	$17.03
4	Mississippi	$17.02
5	Idaho	$16.74
6	California	$16.66
7	Hawaii	$16.57
8	South Carolina	$16.28
9	Wyoming	$15.94
10	Alabama	$15.80
11	New Mexico	$15.77
12	North Carolina	$15.61
13	Oregon	$15.28
14	Wisconsin	$15.06
15	Washington	$14.78
16	Kansas	$14.65
17	Minnesota	$14.05
18	Nebraska	$14.02
19	Colorado	$13.69
20	North Dakota	$13.64
21	Texas	$13.50
22	Iowa	$13.27
23	West Virginia	$12.78
24	New York	$12.35
25	Kentucky	$12.01
26	Rhode Island	$11.96
27	Montana	$11.82
28	Arkansas	$11.80
29	Delaware	$11.44
30	Louisiana	$11.41
	National Average	$11.40
31	South Dakota	$11.36
32	Michigan	$11.02
33	Virginia	$10.86
34	Indiana	$10.75
35	Oklahoma	$10.71
36	Maryland	$10.66
37	Georgia	$10.51
38	Nevada	$10.45
39	Illinois	$10.04
40	Missouri	$ 9.80
41	Tennessee	$ 9.74
42	Pennsylvania	$ 9.69
43	Florida	$ 9.16
44	Vermont	$ 8.40
45	Ohio	$ 8.38
46	Maine	$ 8.25
47	New Jersey	$ 7.38
48	Massachusetts	$ 6.76
49	Connecticut	$ 6.71
50	New Hampshire	$ 5.23

SUMMARY

While no single index has been developed to encompass all of the factors affecting state and local support of public higher education, the measures used in this report reflect a pattern influenced by geography and local tradition.

For example, the Western states have placed a greater reliance on public higher education than the average. They also have a larger than average proportion of their population enrolled. The extent of public higher education services provided is therefore greater than average. This has the effect of requiring larger per capita appropriations and proportions of tax revenue for higher education. This often also results in lower amounts per student served. Washington (along with California and Oregon) reflects this pattern. While these generalities do not apply equally to all states in the West (and the converse is not always the case in the East), the patterns reflected in these tables are important to keep in mind when reviewing comparisons of the higher education data. These factors also indicate that it is unwise to base policy recommendations on any single measure of effort.

APPENDIX A

Sources of Data

1. Chambers, M.M., "Appropriations of State Tax Funds for Operating Expenses of Higher Education, 1976-77", Office of Institutional Research, National Association of Land Grant Colleges, One Dupont Circle, NW, Washington, D.C.

   Revisions to this source data to accurately reflect the appropriations of the second year of the biennium include North Dakota - $50,330,000 (51.5% of the biennial total) and Washington - $333,591,000 (actual distribution of biennial appropriation).

2. U. S. Department of Commerce, "Governmental Finances in 1974-75." Table 17 - General Revenue of State and Local Governments by Source, by Level of Government.

3. U. S. Department of Commerce, "Population Estimates and Projections", Series p-25, No. 642, December 1976.

4. U. S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Survey of Current Business", August 1976. Table 2 - Per Capita Personal Income, by States and Regions.

5. U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, "Fall Enrollment in Higher Education, by Control of Institution and Sex and Attendance Status of Students, All Institutions, Fall 1976", January 1977.

Local Appropriations

The following data are the responses of a telephone survey of states with local tax support of higher education:

Arizona	$ 39,849,000	New Mexico	$ 5,908,500
California	537,674,000*	New York	215,200,000
Colorado	5,480,500	North Carolina	14,747,000
Idaho	1,617,000	North Dakota	470,000
Illinois	84,419,999	Ohio	18,425,000
Indiana	76,000	Oklahoma	3,200,000
Iowa	8,749,300	Oregon	29,936,000
Kansas	30,000,000	Pennsylvania	23,363,200
Maryland	29,140,000	South Carolina	3,857,300
Michigan	25,315,400	Texas	31,000,000*
Missouri	21,309,700	Wisconsin	29,202,900
Montana	1,145,900	Wyoming	4,300,000
Nebraska	10,521,300		
New Jersey	48,522,000		

*Estimates provided by states